

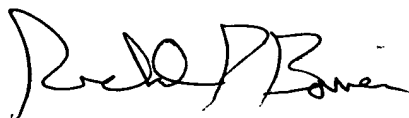
II. Remarks

Claims 1-116 are pending in the application. Claims 1, 23, 45, 53, 63, 77, 84, 89, 91, 105, 110, and 115 are independent.

The specification has been amended to conform with the amended specification of the parent application, U.S. Patent Appln. No. 09/182,475. No new matter has been added.

Applicant's undersigned attorney may be reached in our Washington, D.C. office by telephone at (202) 625-3507. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our address given below.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Richard P. Bauer", written over a horizontal line.

Attorney for Applicant
Richard P. Bauer
Registration No. 31,588

PATENT ADMINISTRATOR
KATTEN MUCHIN ZAVIS ROSENMAN
525 West Monroe Street
Suite 1600
Chicago, Illinois 60661-3693
Facsimile: (312) 902-1061